

# DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY & INFORMATION

# Security News— Cyber Security Awareness Month is Here!

# October 2017 is Cyber Security Awareness Month



Governor Carney has <u>proclaimed October as Cyber Security Awareness Month</u>. A time to focus on how cybersecurity is a shared responsibility that affects all of us.

Every year the **Department of Homeland Security** and states throughout the nation provide opportunities to educate, inform and remind ourselves and others to be cyber aware.

Everyone can take simple actions to protect themselves online and to recover in the event a cyber incident occurs. To learn more, visit: **Stop. Think. Connect.** 

## **Equifax MEGABreach**



Wow...143 million customers, 44% of the US population, are impacted by this monster breach. The hackers got access to full names, social security numbers, birth dates, addresses, and more. Everything needed by the bad guys to impersonate victims to banks and other businesses.

If you have not checked yet, find out if you are affected at the <u>Equifax site</u>. You will be asked to enter your last name and partial social security number. Sign up for Equifax's offer of one year of free credit monitoring. Even if Equifax tells you that you were not impacted, stay vigilant and don't let your guard down. Consider freezing your credit. Monitor your credit history. Watch out for phishing emails that claim to be from Equifax or others trying to "help". Be leery of any phone calls that claim to be from your bank or credit union.

The <u>Delaware Department of Justice's Consumer Protection Unit</u> offers great tips on responding to the breach <u>here</u>. If you believe you are a victim of identity theft, the Attorney General recommends that you report the fraud immediately to your local police department. Look for additional tips at the Attorney General's <u>website</u>. Free services are also provided by the <u>ID Theft Resource Center</u> at 888-400-5530.

#### **Protecting Critical Infrastructure**

Our essential systems support our daily lives – just as electricity, financial institutions, and transportation are all dependent upon the Internet, so are we.

Building resilience into our critical infrastructure is crucial to us and to the overall national security. The biggest threats we are likely to face include: socially engineered malware; password phishing attacks; unpatched software; social media threats and advanced persistent threats.

Learn more at <u>The 5 Cyber Attacks You're Most Likely to</u> Face.

### Ready to Get Involved?

An important and rewarding activity is the annual Cyber Safety presentations to 4th grade students in Delaware. Topics covered include cyber bullying, protecting personal information and overall online safety. A team of volunteers from DTI, state agencies, and community partners provide the interactive presentation free of charge to schools.

As the demand for presentations grows each year, we are looking for new volunteer presenters. In the past decade we've reached almost 45,000 Delaware 4th grade students!

Presentations are scheduled throughout October, November, and December. For more information about presenting or registering your school, visit the <a href="mailto:cyber-school">cyber-school</a> website.

**e**Security Newsletters

Questions, comments or topic suggestions? Email us at <u>eSecurity@state.de.us</u>.

Visit the DTI <u>eSecurity website</u> for previous issues.





